

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05
EPG-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
LAB-04 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 PA-01
PRS-01 OES-07 FEA-01 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 AGRE-00 /111 W
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R 250532Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8848
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 WARSAW 4471

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, COMECON
SUBJECT: XXXIST CEMA MEETINGS: A LISTLESS SESSION

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. THE XXXIST CEMA SESSION HELD AT WARSAW
JUNE 21 TO JUNE 23 WAS MUCH LONGER ON ORCHESTRATION THAN
SUBSTANCE. NO MAJOR NEW AGREEMENTS WERE ANNOUNED AND THE
INITIAL IMPRESSION IS THAT THE SESSION'S MAJOR OBJECTIVE WAS
TO PAY FEALTY TO THE LEADING ROLE OF THE USSR IN CEMA
AFFAIRS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
GREAT OCTOBER REVOLUTION. THE RELATIVE UNIMPORTANCE OF THE
MEETINGS WAS UNDERScoreD BY THE FACT THE IT RECEIVED
EQUAL TREATMENT IN THE WARSAW PRESS WITH THE BREZHNEV
VISIT TO FRANCE. THE XXXIIND CEMA SESSION WILL BE HELD
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IN BUCHAREST AND ROMANIAN MIHAI MANESCU WILL ASSUME
THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE CEMA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. END
SUMMARY.

2. THE XXXIST CEMA SESSION WAS HELD IN WARSAW JUNE 21
TO JUNE 23 WITH GOP PREMIER PIOTR JAROSZEWICZ PRESIDING.
IN AN IRONY OF SORTS, THE CEMA

MEETINGS WERE HELD AND THE DELEGATIONS HOUSED IN THE LUXURIOUS SWEDISH-BUILT HOTEL VICTORIA, ONE OF POLAND'S MOST CONSPICUOUS MONUMENTS TO ITS WESTERN-ORIENTED TRADE POLICY. THE USSR, POLAND, BULGARIA, ROMANIA, THE GDR, HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND MONGOLIA WERE REPRESENTED AT THE PREMIER LEVEL. THE YUGOSLAV DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY THE RELATIVELY LOW-RANKING DOBROSLAV CULAFIC, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. CUBA'S RANKING DELEGATE WAS ITS PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO CEMA, RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ, AND THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM'S DELEGATION WAS LED BY VICE PREMIER LE THANH NGHI.

3. THE XXXIST SESSION BEGAN WITH JAROSZEWICZ'S UNREMARK-ABLE SPEECH, DEVOTED MAINLY TO PRAISING THE LEADING ROLE OF THE SOVIET UNION IN CEMA. THE PREMIER UNDERLINED SOVIET ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE THE GREAT OCTOBER REVOLUTION AND ATTACKED "PROPAGANDISTS OF THE IMPERIALIST CAMP" FOR DESCRIBING CEMA AS AN INSTRUMENT OF SOVIET HEGEMONY. JAROSZEWICZ SAID THIS "FALSE THESIS" WAS TYPICAL OF CAPITALIST THINKING SINCE RELATIONS IN THE CAPITALIST WORLD BETWEEN SUPERPOWERS AND SMALL AND MIDDLE-SIZED STATES COULD ONLY BE PREDICATED UPON A HEGEMONIC MODEL. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CEMA STATES AND THE USSR, ACCORDING TO JAROSZEWICZ, HAVE NEVER--EVEN IN THE AFTERMATH OF WARTIME DEVASTATION--BEEN FORMULATED ON CONFIDENTIAL

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A HEGEMONIC PRINCIPLE.

4. COVERAGE OF THE SESSION IN THE POLISH PRESS SUGGESTS THAT THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE CONFERENCE WAS TO PRAISE THE SOVIET UNION'S CEMA LEADERSHIP IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT OCTOBER REVOLUTION. SUPPORTING SPEECHES BY DELEGATION HEADS CONTAINED FULSOME PRAISE FOR THE SOVIET UNION'S ASSISTANCE AND DULY NOTED THE USSR'S REVOLUTIONARY LEADERSHIP. ONLY THE REMARKS OF THE YUGOSLAV DELEGATE DEPARTED SIGNIFICANTLY FROM THE STANDARD LINE. WHILE WARMLY PRAISING THE "OCTOBER SPIRIT" AND ITS SYMBOLIC MEANING FOR THE YUGOSLAV COMMUNIST MOVEMENT, CULAFIC WAS CAREFUL TO POINT OUT THAT THE BUILDING OF SOCIALISM IN HIS COUNTRY WAS BASED UPON UNIQUE YUGOSLAV HISTORICAL CONDITIONS AND THE POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ATTITUDES OF THE YUGOSLAV WORKING CLASS.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 WARSAW 4471

5. COVERAGE OF THE SESSION IN THE POLISH PRESS SUGGESTS
ALMOST NO NEW GROUND WAS BROKEN IN THE XXXIST SESSION.
STANDARD CEMA THEMES, INCLUDING LONG-TERM PLANNING AND
COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF ENERGY, RAW MATERIALS,
MACHINE-BUILDING, AND THE FOOD INDUSTRY WERE DISCUSSED,
BUT NO MAJOR NEW PROJECTS WERE ANNOUNCED.
(COMMENT: A WELL-INFORMED SOURCE IN THE
POLISH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) TOLD AN
EMBASSY OFFICER THAT LITTLE WAS ACHIEVED IN THE SESSION.
HE SAID THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO GENERAL AGREEMENT ON HOW TO DEAL
WITH COMPLEX MONETARY AND PRICING ISSUES WITHIN CEMA AND
THAT THIS WAS DELAYING AGREEMENT ON A NUMBER OF CEMA-WIDE
INVESTMENTS IN ENERGY AND RAW MATERIALS. ACCORDING TO THE
MFA OFFICIAL, MEMBER STATES REMAIN RELUCTANT TO COMMIT
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RESOURCES TO MAJOR RAW-MATERIAL PROJECTS IN THE USSR IN THE
ABSENCE OF A PRICING AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD ENSURE THAT THEIR
INVESTMENTS WOULD BE PROFITABLE. END COMMENT.)

6. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, DISCUSSION ENSUED ON THE NEED FOR BETTER COORDINATION WITHIN CEMA, IN THE PURCHASE OF LICENSES AND TECHNOLOGY TO PREVENT THE "DUPLICATION OF EFFORTS" IN MEMBER COUNTRIES. (COMMENT: WE DOUBT THAT AN ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO ESTABLISH A FORMAL CLEARING MECHANISM WITHIN CEMA FOR THE PURCHASE OF LICENSES AND TECHNOLOGY FROM THE WEST ANYTIME SOON. MEMBER STATES APPEAR TO BE VERY RELUCTANT TO RELINQUISH THEIR FREEDOM TO CHOOSE AMONG COMETING WESTERN TECHNOLOGIES. END COMMENT.)

7. A SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR COOPERATION IN LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION EMERGED IN A SPEECH BY KOSYGIN. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, KOSYGIN SAID IT IS IMPORTANT TO "SEPARATE" EFFORTS TO INCREASE MEAT PRODUCTION BASED ON A COUNTRY'S OWN FODDER FROM ATTEMPTS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CLIMATIC CONDITIONS PREVAILING IN "CERTAIN" MEMBER COUNTRIES. (COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE REFERENCE IS UNCLEAR, IT APPEARS THAT KOSYGIN MAY HAVE BEEN SUGGESTING THAT FRATERNAL CEMA MEMBERS ASSUME A ROLE IN REBUILDING LIVESTOCK HERDS IN PARTS OF THE USSR, WHERE CONDITIONS FOR GRAZING ARE FAVORABLE. THE CEMA STATES WHICH EXPORT LARGE QUANTITIES OF MEAT AND LIVESTOCK TO THE USSR MIGHT FIND IT MORE ATTRACTIVE FROM A POLITICAL STANDPOINT TO INVEST IN SUCH JOINT LIVESTOCK PROJECTS IN THE SOVIET UNION THAN TO CONTINUE THE HIGHLY UNPOPULAR EXPORT OF LIVE CATTLE, HOGS, MEAT. THE SAME MFA OFFICIAL CITED ABOVE SAID THE SOVIET INTEREST IN ADVANCING THIS PROPOSAL HAS INCREASED BECAUSE OF LAST

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YEAR'S EXCELLENT GRAIN CROP AND THE PROMISING OUTLOOK FOR THIS YEAR'S HARVEST. END COMMENT.)

8. IN CONFORMITY WITH PAST PRACTICE, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE XXXIIND SESSION WILL BE HELD IN BUCHAREST AND THAT THE NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE CEMA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WILL BE MIHAI MANESCU, VICE-PREMIER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ROMANIAN STATE PLANNING COMMISSION. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, A COMMUNIQUE ON THE SESSION WILL BE PUBLISHED.

9. COMMENT: THE ACTIVITIES OF THE XXXIST SESSION WERE NEARLY ECLIPSED BY BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO FRANCE, WHICH RECEIVED MAJOR PRESS PLAY HERE, THUS UNDERSCORING THE LACK OF IMPORTANCE WHICH THE KREMLIN APPARENTLY ATTACHED TO WHAT WAS ESSENTIALLY A "DO-NOTHIN" SESSION. END COMMENT.

DAVIES

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Message Attributes

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